

Message Text

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44

ACTION SSM-05

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SSM FOR KONTOS FROM THORNE

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: PFOR, IS, EG

SUBJ: COMMUNICATIONS AND CONSTRUCTION PLANNING CONSIDERATIONS

REF: CAIRO 1981

1. IN ADDITION TO TOPICS REPORTED BY ME IN REFERENCED CABLE SUBJECT OF COMM BETWEEN SFM BASE CAMP AND MIL HQS IS CAIRO WAS DISCUSSED AT LENGTH DURING MEETING WITH GEN GAMASY ON 12 FEB 76. FOLLOWING INITIAL DISCOURSE GEN GAMASY STATED THAT GOE INSISTS ON A DIRECT TTY LINK BETWEEN SFM AND HIS HQS IN CAIRO PLUS A LATERAL CIRCUIT TO EGYPTIAN SURVEILLANCE STATION (E-1). HE WAS THEN BRIEFED ON US CAPABILITY. THIS COULD BE TO INSTALL VHF RTTY HALF DUPLEX CIRCUIT BETWEEN THE TWO HQS WITH AN AUTOMATIC RELAY IN ISMAILIA AND INFORMED THAT DUE TO LEAD TIME FOR PROCUREMENT OF TELEPRINTERS CIRCUIT WOULD NOT BE AVAILABLE UNTIL SOMETIME LATE APRIL. HE INDICATED DESIRE FOR RECORD TRAFFIC AS OF 22 FEB 76 OR AS SOON THEREAFTER AS POSSIBLE. WE PURSUED HOW THIS COULD BEST BE ACCOMPLISHED DURING THE INTERIM PERIOD WITH GEN RIFAAT CHF OF COMM SERVICES. THE FOLLOWING ACTIONS WERE AGREED TO WITH HE AND GEN GAMASY:

A. GDE WILL PROVIDE A TELEPRINTER AND TERMINAL EQUIPMENT

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AT E-1 FOR DIRECT LINK TO CAIRO. THIS MAY BE EITHER

AN RTTY CKT OR LANDLINE IF OLD CABLE IS FUNCTIONAL OR REPARABLE. CONCEPTUALLY, A CABLE FROM DIR SFM TO GOE WILL BE RELAYED BY VOICE TO USG LNO AT E-1, TYPED AND PASSED TO EGYPTIAN OPERATOR WHO THEN TRANSMITS TO CAIRO USING GOE EQUIPMENT.

B. CONTRACTOR COMM ENGINEERS WILL COORDINATE WITH GOE COMM SERVICES PERSONNEL IN CONDUCTING FIELD STRENGTH MEASUREMENTS ON LINK FROM ISMAILIA TO CAIRO. THIS SHOULD OCCUR ON OR ABOUT 21 FEB WHEN BASE STATION IS BEING INSTALLED AT ISMAILIA (UNEF HQS). GEN RIFAAT WAS OF THE OPINION THAT AN ADDITIONAL RELAY WOULD BE REQUIRED, HOWEVER, WE HAVE LEARNED THAT THE UN OPERATES A 100 WATT VHF LINK OVER THE SAME LINE OF SIGHT WITHOUT NEED FOR A RELAY.

2. HAVE DISCUSSED POSSIBILITY OF TYING IN TO RAFIDIM SWITCH WITH REP FROM COL LEVINSON'S OFFICE AND APPARENTLY THERE WOULD BE NO OBJECTION, HOWEVER, LINE QUALITY COULD BE A MAJOR PROBLEM. AS AN ALTERNATIVE, SUGGEST CONSIDER MULTIPLEXING RTTY CKT TO JERUSALEM WITH PHONE PATCH INTO COMMERCIAL TELEPHONE SYSTEM THERE. STANLEY BELIEVES THIS WOULD BE MORE EFFICIENT AND OF MUCH GREATER QUALITY THAN LANDLINE. WILL REQUEST CONTRACTOR TO PURSUE UNLESS OBJECTION YOUR END. IF DESIRED, THIS COULD ALSO BE APPLIED TO THE EXCHANGE LINK.

3. CONTRACTOR HAS RECOMMENDED THAT SITE FOR MAIN BASE CAMP BE ROTATED TO FACE WEST TO FACILITATE CONSTRUCTION AND HOLD DOWN COSTS. IT IS A RECTANGULAR SITE, 700 X 560 FT. THE GENERAL AREA SLOPES PRIMARILY NORTH AND SLIGHTLY EAST. IN THE ORIGINAL ORIENTATION, FACING IN A NORTHERLY DIRECTION TOWARD THE MAIN ROAD, THE EASTERN END WOULD EXTEND SOME 140 TO 150 FT EAST OF THE PROPOSED BOUNDARY INTO SOMEWHAT LOWER TERRAIN, AND INTO AN AREA WHERE THERE APPEARS TO BE SEVERAL OUTCROPS OF ROCK. THE CONTRACTOR TOOK A BACKHOE AND DUG SEVERAL TEST HOLES IN THE AREA HE IS RECOMMENDING, AND IT APPEARS THAT SOIL CONDITIONS ARE IN FACT MORE FAVORABLE. IN ADDITION, HE DESIRES TO USE COMMON FOOTINGS AS MUCH AS IS PRACTICABLE FOR THE SIDE BY SIDE MODULES. THE RECOMMENDED SITE ORIENTATION DOES APPEAR TO FACILITATE SUCH LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PROCEDURE. WE DO NOT HAVE ENOUGH INFORMATION TO QUANTIFY POSSIBLE SAVINGS, BUT BASED ON VISUAL INSPECTION, LAYNE AND CALLAWAY ARE SATISFIED THAT THE PROPOSAL WILL RESULT IN REDUCED COSTS TO SOME DEGREE. BASED ON REVIEW OF PROJECTED REQUIREMENTS ANY DELAY IN EXCESS OF ONE WEEK FROM DATE FOR APPROVAL OF PERMANENT CAMP SITE WILL RESULT IN INEFFICIENT UTILIZATION OF CONTRACTOR PERSONNEL.

WITH QUICK DECISION, WE CAN BREAK GROUND ON PERMANENT
CAMP SITE ON FEB 25. MR PEARCY, COL LAYNE AND I ARE IN
COMPLETE AGREEMENT IN RECOMMENDING NEW CAMP SITE ORIENTATION.
SINCE PLANNING IS ALSO REQUIRED REQUEST YOUR DECISION ASAP.
THORNE

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